RIGHTS IN CRISIS

An expert meeting on promoting rights-based approaches to financial regulation, macroeconomic policies, and economic recovery

New York, 24 - 25 April 2013

WEDNESDAY, 24 April 2013

MORNING  Conference Room 7, North Lawn Building

10h00 – 10h30  Opening Session
Chairperson: Mr. Bat-Erdene Ayush, Chief, Right to Development Section, OHCHR
Opening remarks by:
• Mr. Ivan Simonovic, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights
• H.E. Ms. Yanerit Morgan, Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations

10h30 – 11h00  General statements

11h00 – 11h30  Introduction to OHCHR’s background paper (Mr. Bat-Erdene Ayush) followed by Q and A

11h30 – 12h15  Panel on Promoting Human Rights in Macroeconomic Policies
Moderator: Mr. Tseliso Thipanyane, Former CEO of the South African Human Rights Commission
Panellists:
• Ms. Radhika Balakrishnan, Professor, Rutgers University, *The obligation to commit maximum available resources to the progressive realization of human rights*

• Ms. Marina Durano, Assistant Professor, University of the Philippines, *Challenges and Opportunities for Financing Development in the Philippines*

• Ms. Atieno Ndomo, Regional Coordinator (Africa), UN Millennium Campaign, *Neo-liberal macroeconomics and Kenya’s human rights-oriented constitution: Contradictions and the need for alternatives*

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1 Organized by OHCHR in collaboration with the Centre of Concern.
12h15 – 13h00   Interactive dialogue

13h00 – 15h00   LUNCH BREAK

**AFTERNOON**  
**Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium**

15h00 – 15h45   **Panel on Promoting Human Rights in Financial Regulation**
Moderator: Mr. Jose Antonio Ocampo, Professor, Columbia University

Panellists:
- Mr. Aldo Caliari, Director, Rethinking Bretton Woods, Centre of Concern, *Righting financial regulation: A review of selected areas drawing on human rights instruments*
- Ms. Smitha Francis, Principal Economist, Economic Research Foundation, New Delhi, *Rights Conflicts in New Banking Regulations: The Basel capital requirements*
- Mr. Barry Herman, Visiting Senior Fellow, The New School, *Regulating financial sectors for development and social justice*

15h45– 16h20   Interactive Dialogue

16h20 – 17h15   **Roundtable Discussion: Perspectives from the UN and other international organizations**

Moderators: Mr. Jose Antonio Ocampo (Columbia University) and Mr. Bat-Erdene Ayush (OHCHR)

Participants:
- Mr. Axel Bertuch-Samuels, Special Representative to the UN, International Monetary Fund
- Ms. Shireen Said, Global Policy Advisor on Human Rights, Bureau for Development Policy, United Nations Development Programme
- Mr. Hazem Fahmy, Chief, Multi-Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach Branch, Financing for Development Office, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro, Deputy Director, International Labour Organization
- Ms. Yassine Fall, Chief, Economic Empowerment Section, UN Women

17h15 – 17h55   Interactive dialogue

17h55 – 18h00   Concluding Remarks: Mr. Aldo Caliari (Centre of Concern)
THURSDAY, 25 April 2013

S-1522 FC, Secretariat Building (private meeting)

10h00 – 10h15 Informal reflection and discussion, arrival of participants

10h15 – 10h45 **Plenary Session**

Reflections on the first day by rapporteurs:
- Mr. Nicholas Lusiani (Center for Economic and Social Rights)
- Ms. Sara Burke (Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung)

10h45 – 11h30 Plenary discussion of key issues and questions

11h30 – 13h00 **First Breakout Session**

- Human rights and financial regulation
- Human rights and macroeconomic policies

Guiding questions: What are the top human rights impacts of the financial crisis and the major aspects of financial regulation/macroeconomic policies that affect human rights? How can human rights considerations guide our response to the financial crisis? How do we bridge the gap between human rights obligations and financial and economic policies?

13h00 – 15h00 LUNCH BREAK

15h00 – 15h30 Reporting back from the first breakout session

15h30 – 17h00 **Second Breakout Session (groups switch subjects)**

- Human rights and financial regulation
- Human rights and macroeconomic policies

Guiding questions: What can your group add to the conclusions of the first group? (please spend no more than 15 -30 minutes on this) How do we galvanize support for action? What groups are likely partners in this effort? What are specific concrete actions that we can take to have the most effect? What suggestions do you have for OHCHR going forward?

17h00 – 17h45 Reporting back on the second breakout session

17h45 – 18h00 **Closing**